(d) the preventive precautionary measures taken to avoid such problems in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to the Convener CAT 2009, a few thousand students faced inconvenience due to technical glitches occurred in online CAT examination. However, most of the students have already been rescheduled and all of them are being given the opportunity to take the test.

(c) Prometric and National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) were entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the test.

(d) IIMs have put in place a process to identify the causes for disruptions noticed and reported during the entire testing period and these are being addressed to ensure smooth testing for the currently held CAT and for the future tests.

Schools for rural areas under Public-Private-Partnership scheme

3321. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a tact that 25,000 schools would be set up in rural areas under the Public-Private-Partnership scheme;

(b) if so, as schools in rural areas are often not financially viable, will funding be done as a social objective of Government and social responsibility of the private sector; and

(c) whether guidelines would be so framed that remote and hilly areas get preference as penetration of education there is non-existent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) This Ministry has decided to set up 6000 model schools at the rate of one school per block as benchmarks of excellence. 2500 schools out of these are envisaged to be set up in public-private partnership mode in blocks which are not educationally backward.

Setting up of national universities

3322. MS. MABEL REBELLO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether complete autonomy, exemption from audit by CAG and creation of special research endowment fund could be key features of 14 national universities of world-class standard proposed to be set up by Government;

(b) whether aiming to develop these universities as global centres of innovation, his Ministry has prepared a concept note on institutions proposed to be set up under Eleventh Five Year Plan;